



HEALTH AFFAIRS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D C 20301-1200

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MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (M&RA)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (M&RA)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (M&RA)

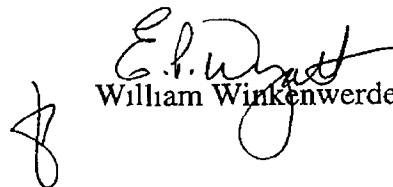
SUBJECT: Armed Forces Reserve Component Medical Activities under the DoD  
Health Information Privacy Regulation

This memorandum is to clarify the status of the Armed Forces Reserve Component medical activities under the Health Information Privacy Regulation.

The Department of Defense (DoD) Health Information Privacy Regulation, DoD 6025 18-R, implements the health information privacy requirement arising from the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

"Covered entities" must comply with the HIPAA Privacy Rule. A covered entity is defined as (1) a health plan, (2) a health care clearinghouse, or (3) a health care provider who transmits any health information in electronic form in connection with specific transactions noted in the rule. Reserve Component medical activities that are outside a military medical treatment facility and do not engage in payment-related electronic transactions do not meet this definition, and therefore are not required to comply with the Privacy Regulation. Please ensure that your Department's Health Information Privacy Regulation implementation is consistent with this memorandum.

Further questions may be addressed to the TMA Privacy Officer, Samuel P Jenkins. He may be reached at 703-681-5611 extension 6824 or email Sam.Jenkins@tma.osd.mil.

  
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